

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PHNOM 06111 102159Z

70 S

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 /026 W

----- 080492

Z 102100Z APR 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 252

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK FLASH

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI FLASH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON FLASH

COMUSSAG FLASH

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 6111

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, CB

SUBJECT: E&E

REF: 81634

1. RE PARA ONE REFTEL, IT IS NOW TOO LATE (0400 HOURS LOCAL, APRIL 11) TO EXECUTE EVACUATION EARLY AM APRIL 11. WE ARE THEREFORE PLANNING TO EVACUATE EARLY A.M. APRIL 12. CINCPAC J-3 CONFIRMS THAT HANCOCK WILL BE AVAILABLE APRIL 12, WHICH WOULD INCREASE TOTAL HELO ASSETS AND ASSURE US SINGLE-LIFT HELO CAPABILITY.

2. EAGLE PULL OPTIONS ONE OR TWO ARE NOT FEASIBLE FOR NUMBER OF REASONS:

(A) UNAVAILABILITY OF GROUND SECURITY FORCE OF SUFFICIENT SIZE TO SECURE POCHENTONG AIRFIELD;

(B) POSSIBILITY THAT POCHENTONG WILL NOT BE IN FRIENDLY HANDS APRIL 12 OR WILL BE UNDER SEVERE ENEMY ATTACK BY APRIL 12;

(C) PROBABLE NECESSITY TO USE MASSIVE TACAIR TO SECURE POCHENTONG, AND INEVITABILITY THAT SUCH TACAIR WOULD BE DIRECTED AGAINST FRIENDLIES AS WELL AS ENEMY, WHICH WOULD BE HIGHLY IN-

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ADVISABLE POLITICALLY;

(D) EVEN IF NONE OF THE ABOVE APPLY, MASSIVE EVACUATION VIA  
POCHENTONG WOULD BE LIKELY TO CAUSE GENERAL PANIC IN CITY, WHICH  
WOULD MAKE OPERATION IMPOSSIBLE TO EXECUTE WITHOUT USING  
FORCE AGAINST CIVIL POPULACE.

(E) CONTRARY TO SCENARIO OUTLINED IN JCS 101821Z APR 75, IF  
EAGLE PULL OPTIONS ONE OR TWO FAILED TO BE COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY  
BECAUSE OF PANDEMONIUM AT POCHENTONG, IT WOULD THEN BE  
IMPOSSIBLE TO MOVE GSF AND EVACUEES TO LZ HOTEL. REMEMBER DA NANG.

3. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, EAGLE PULL OPTION THREE IS OUR ONLY  
POSSIBLE COURSE, AND IF MILITARY SITUATION DETERIORATES WE  
HAVE TO MOVE BEFORE SATURDAY. DCM, GENERAL PALMER, COLONEL  
BATCHELDER AND ADMIRAL GAYLER (WHOM WE HAVE JUST CONSULTED BY  
PHONE) ARE UNANIMOUSLY IN AGREEMENT WITH THIS JUDGMENT OF MINE.

4. I THEREFORE REQUEST ALL CONCERNED TO EXECUTE EAGLE PULL  
OPTION THREE AT FIRST LIGHT SATURDAY, APRIL 12, WITH FIRST CHOPPER  
TO ARRIVE AT LZ HOTEL AT 0900 HOURS LOCAL.

5. USE OF AMERICAN TACAIR IS LESS LIKELY TO BE NECESSARY UNDER  
EAGLE PULL OPTION THREE THAN UNDER THE OTHER OPTIONS, THOUGH  
I CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT WOULD BE REQUIRED EVEN  
UNDER OPTION THREE. UNDER OPTION THREE MY ESTIMATE IS THAT IT WOULD  
BE DIRECTED AGAINST THE KC RATHER THAN AGAINST THE FANK, WHICH  
I COULD NOT GUARANTEE UNDER OPTIONS ONE OR TWO.

6. RE PARA TWO REFTEL, I UNDERSTAND THAT MY INSTRUCTIONS ARE  
TO GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO GETTING AMERICANS OUT SAFELY "AND  
THEN AS MANY KHMER AS POSSIBLE." THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A DRAFTING  
ERROR, SINCE ONCE THE AMERICANS HAVE LEFT, THE KHmers WILL BE  
ON THEIR OWN, AND THERE WILL BE NO OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO GET KHmers  
OUT "THEN."

7. RE PARA THREE REFTEL, I WOULD BE HAPPY TO STAY, AND MORE  
THAN A HANDFUL OF MY STAFF HAVE ALREADY VOLUNTEERED TO STAY  
WITH ME, IF THERE WOULD BE ANY WAY WE COULD ASSIST THE KHmers  
TO WORK OUT A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION. OF COURSE THERE WOULD BE  
SOME RISKS INVOLVED, AND WE SHALL WEIGH THESE RISKS TOMORROW ON  
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THE BASIS OF MEETINGS I PLAN TO HAVE WITH THE LEADERS OF TYB  
GKR. IF THEY ARE STILL CHEWING THEIR CUDS, I SEE NO REASON TO  
STAY WITH THEM TO SEE WHAT THEY MAY REGURGITATE, BUT I WILL MAKE  
THAT ASSESSMENT TOMORROW.  
DEAN

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED DOD PER MR. JOHNSON, S/S-O.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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